(b) whether the self-contributory PRBs scheme with reference to aforesaid order dated 6.8.98 is a statutory scheme of Government;

(c) whether his Ministry has given any exemption to the aforesaid PRBs scheme as per E.P.S. 1995 under Act No. 25 of 1996; and

(d) what action Government have taken so far, against ONGC in response to letter of ONGC Employees Association?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) M/s. ONGC had applied for grant of exemption from the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. As there are several deficiencies in the Pension Scheme of M/s. ONGC, their request for exemption has not been found in order. Accordingly, necessary legal proceedings have been initiated to workout the pension contribution due from the establishment. The matter has also been taken up with the Ministry of Petroleum for securing compliance under the Employees' Pension Scheme from the ONGC.

Proposal for Changing the Trade Union Act

3020. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make changes in the Trade Union Act to control the unchecked growth of unions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Various amendments to the Trade Unions Act, 1926 are proposed based on the requirements of the social partners and in consonance with economic reforms. A cautions policy is adopted to bring about amendments in the Trade Unions Act after taking into consideration all the relevant factors.

Unemployment Allowance to Unemployed Youth

3021. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments are giving unemployment allowance;

(b) if so, what are those State Governments and the amount of allowance given by them to each unemployed youth and the amount borne by the Central Government out of that;

(c) whether Orissa Government has recently announced some unemployment allowance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Governments of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are paying unemployment allowance ranging from Rs. 50 to Rs. 400 P.M. to specified category of educated unemployed registered with the Employment Exchanges from their own resources.

The Government of Maharashtra has a scheme for providing financial assistance to educated unemployed.

(c) and (d) The Government of Orissa have, in the Governor's Speech in Orissa Assembly on 15.3.99 proposed to make a beginning in providing unemployment doles to registered educated unemployed with a view to covering all registered unemployed within a period of five years.

Workers in Fish Processing Industry

3022. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the available labour laws to assist the workers in fish processing industry;

(b) how many workers are engaged in this industry; and